CLAIMS

1. A floating-probe flowmeter for measuring the flow rate of a moving medium, with a measuring tube through which flows a medium against the force of gravity, said measuring tube containing a float capable of moving at least in the direction of the flow, wherein at least the surface of the float that is exposed to the flow of the medium is provided with a microstructure and/or that the inner surface of the measuring tube at least in the area of movement of the float is provided with a microstructure.

2. The floating-probe flowmeter as in claim 1, wherein the peaks of the microstructure are between 5 and 400 μm high and the apices of neighboring peaks are spaced apart by a distance of between 5 and 800 μm.

3. The floating-probe flowmeter as in claim 2, wherein neighboring peaks are of approximately equal height and the apices of neighboring peaks are spaced apart by a distance corresponding to about 1 to 2 times the height of the peaks.

4. The floating probe flowmeter as in claim 2, wherein the neighboring peaks are between 5 and 100 μm high and the apices of neighboring probes are spaced apart by a distance of between 5 and 200 μm.

5. The floating-probe flowmeter as in one of the claims 1 to 3, wherein the peaks of the said microstructure are hydrophobic. - Claim 2 does not teach peaks